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25 August 1969

MEMORANDUM FOR THE RECORD

Morning Meeting of 25 August 1969

The Director was out of town. Acting Director chaired the meeting.

DDI reported that a memorandum on Thailand had been sent to the White House over the weekend.

Lehman for Godfrey reported that the weekend had been quiet. He noted that a North Vietnamese regiment had been identified in the delta area in South Vietnam for the first time.

Lehman reported that Soviet Ambassador Dobrynin looked unwell when he met with Ambassador Beam in Moscow last Friday. Dobrynin seemed poorly informed on SALT developments, which has led to speculation that the Soviets will not make a significant initiative on SALT matters soon.

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Carver noted that he would meet with Secretary Laird this morning.

Carver called attention to press reports which quoted Green Beret Attorney Rothblatt as stating that the CIA officer had lied at the recent hearings in Saigon.

Maury reported that NBC television would put on a show tonight on the results of detailed investigation into the Pueblo case. He said that the program would focus on the overall US-intelligence effort and possibly attempt to implicate the Agency.

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General Cushman and Executive Director agreed to compile a roster which would allocate responsibility for giving speeches at the senior Service schools among the DCI, DDCI, and Executive Director. Executive Director noted that General Cushman would give the speech at the Armed Forces Staff College next month.

There was a brief discussion of the status of NIE 11-8-69 which is on the agenda for the USIB meeting on 28 August. D/ONE noted that it had been decided to discontinue the use of an upper limit in estimates of ICBM launchers.

[Redacted Signature]

L. K. White

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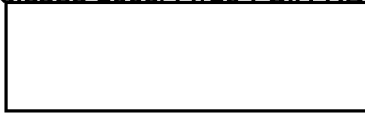
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Bross reported on the Director's session with the PFIAB on 22 August to discuss the implications of the reorganization of intelligence in the Pentagon. He said that the PFIAB had suggested that the Director change the name of the National Intelligence Resources Board to National Intelligence Resources and Requirements Board.

Bross noted that General Maxwell Taylor had expressed concern for security of the papers prepared for the Verification Committee and had urged the Director to control dissemination very strictly. General Cushman noted that the Director had asked him to speak about the sensitivity of background papers at the meeting of the Verification Committee in San Clemente on 29 August which he and Carl Duckett will attend. Mr. Duckett said that he would furnish General Cushman with a list of recipients of the papers.



Bross noted that on Friday the Director had warned the PFIAB that, while the current round of cuts in overseas personnel could be absorbed by the Agency, future cuts would be very difficult to take without beginning significantly to erode the Agency's capabilities overseas. Executive Director noted that an additional round of personnel cuts is already in the wind.

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## CIA Spokesman Lied, Berets' Lawyer Charges

NEW YORK (AP)—A lawyer for three of eight Army Green Berets charged in the slaying of a Vietnamese, reportedly a double agent, says a Central Intelligence Agency representative "lied" at a pretrial hearing last week to "cover up for his own mistakes and stupidity."

"The CIA," attorney Henry B. Rothblatt said yesterday, "distorted information to precipitate the hearing. Then, in cross examination, a representative of the agency was caught in lies and hid behind executive privilege."

Rothblatt returned yesterday from Saigon, and said he was confident the Army would drop charges against the eight Special Forces members "within a week."

"They just don't have any evidence," he said of the Army.

Rothblatt said he could not discuss details of the case because they were classified by the military.

He said, however, that the case was fouled up by "incompetents on one level advising incompetents on a higher level."

Rothblatt also said he was seeking a congressional investigation of the case.

The Vietnamese they are ac-



HENRY E. ROTHBLATT

cused of killing June 20 reportedly was working for both the CIA and the North Vietnamese.

The eight Green Berets, including Col. Robert B. Rheault, commander of all Special Forces in Vietnam, were subsequently arrested and accused of murder and conspiracy to commit murder.

"Their attitude," Rothblatt said, "was, 'Well, anything can happen in war.'"